



TOWN OF TRURO

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Dear Truro Voter:

This year's Annual Town Meeting Warrant is unusually long, but, as in other years, it includes a number of "customary articles" for setting salaries for the Selectmen and the Moderator, and some transfers of funds from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate, to increase the balance in the Stabilization Fund and the Capital Improvement Fund, and to authorize funds in anticipation of reimbursement of State Highway Assistance Aid.

In other Articles, we will ask you to appropriate and approve expenditure of Land Bank funds to pay principal and interest expenses on existing debt and, in a separate Article, to appropriate and expend Land Bank funds transferred to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, approved by Town referendum in May 2003 (and approved by Special Legislation to the Great and General Court in September 2002). These budgets must be separate from the Omnibus Budget, because of separate funding, expenditure, and accounting mechanisms.

By far, the major bulk of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant is given over to two fairly long documents: the Revised Zoning Bylaw and the Town Charter Amendments. The first of these, the Revised Zoning Bylaws, was requested by the Planning Board and represents a reordering of the Town's present Zoning Bylaws, rather than substantive changes. We feel that the reorganization will make the Bylaws much easier to use, and we encourage your approval of the Revised Zoning Bylaw

The second large document is presented by the Truro Charter and Bylaws Review Committee and represents the work of this group over the last 16 months. Here there are significant recommendations for revision, offered in the spirit of improving clarity eliminating redundancy, ensuring conformance with current Massachusetts Laws, reflecting current and future needs of the Town, and enabling increased efficiency and effectiveness of Town government. The Committee has prepared a Synopsis of Significant Recommended Revisions, which we commend to you so that you may be prepared to discuss and vote on the proposed Charter Amendments.

Truro Board of Selectmen